(d) the details of the fleet expansion programme planned by Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) At present there is no proposal to expand Air India fleet to cover additional destinations;

(b) Air India is presently operating to USA, Europe, Moscow, Japan, Hongkong, South East Asia, Africa and Gulf;

(c) Air India has not planned any new services in the near future due to capacity constraints;

(d) Does not arise.

Caribjet Deal by AI

3812. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:

SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appearing in the Pioneer dated 30th March , 2000 under the Caption 'After Caribjet, AIMD faces another probe'; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the loss suffered by AI as a result of the action taken by its MD for appointing a consultant?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir;

(b) A retired employee of Air India had been appointed as a consultant from October 1997 by Air India. His appointment has since been terminated on 15.04.2000. He was one of the officers named in the report dated 21.12.98 of the Chief Vigilance Officer of Air India in Atmaram Mansion (former Scindia House) case for certain alleged lapses. However, no loss to Air India can be attributed to this appointment.

Replacement of Aircraft by AI and IA

3813. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item titled "Airbus Industry hopes to clinch Rs. 10,000 crores deal" which appeared in the Indian Express dated 15th March, 2000;